

By Senator Hill

1-1729-03

See HB 389

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to student athletes; creating
3 s. 877.135, F.S.; prohibiting the giving or
4 offering of inducements to certain student
5 athletes for the purpose of encouraging such
6 athlete to attend or not attend certain
7 academic institutions, to become a professional
8 athlete, or to endorse products or commercial
9 establishments; providing exceptions; providing
10 penalties; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Section 877.135, Florida Statutes, is
15 created to read:

16 877.135 Corrupting or attempting to corrupt student
17 athletes.--

18 (1) Whoever gives or offers any inducement to a high
19 school or middle school athlete with the intent of encouraging
20 such athlete to attend or not attend a particular academic
21 institution, to become a professional athlete, or to endorse a
22 product or commercial establishment commits a misdemeanor of
23 the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by
24 a fine not to exceed the larger of \$1,000 or three times the
25 value of the inducement given or offered. Nothing herein shall
26 prohibit the prosecution of such person under any other laws.

27 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to
28 the offering of a scholarship by the academic institution or
29 the provision of items and expenses specifically permitted
30 under the rules and regulations governing the recruitment of
31 athletes by the academic institution. The provisions of this

1 section shall also not apply to any offer of employment by a
2 professional sports team or organization that has provided the
3 athlete with a written statement outlining any limitations
4 which the acceptance of such offer will place on the amateur
5 career of such athlete.

6 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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